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## GENERAL

1. US explains Italian colonies proposal--The Department of State has informed US Embassy London of its view that British criticism of the US proposal for the return of Italian residents to the colonies would be dispelled by a frank explanation of US thinking on the subject. The Department explains that the US proposals were introduced because of a growing concern over unfavorable repercussions from Italian public opinion as a consequence of US failure to support Italian trusteeship of the colonies. The Department does not, however, wish to make more difficult British administration of these colonies and therefore suggests that the UK join the US in a joint recommendation which would be designed to meet British requirements concerning the return of the Italian residents.

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2. US concerned by Dutch attitude in GOC negotiations--The Department of State has expressed to US representatives in Batavia its concern over recent actions by the Netherlands Government which have not been conducive to the resumption of negotiations by the UN Good Offices Committee. The Department feels that the Dutch attitude, whether intentional or unintentional, appears to be hastening the fall of the present Republican Government as well as increasing the possibility that a successor regime will be strongly left-wing, if not Communist controlled. The Department desires to take all practicable steps to hasten the resumption of negotiations between the Republic and the Dutch and has asked for suggestions from the Batavia representatives before taking action.

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